

Message Text

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ACTION MMS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 TRSE-00 EB-11 ABF-01 SS-20 SPC-03

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R 271717Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5281

UNCLAS NASSAU 355

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN ETRN AFSP BF

SUBJ: PROPOSAL TO EXPAND CUSTOMS PRECLEARANCE

1. I CONCUR IN TREASURY'S REQUEST TO ESTABLISH TWENTY ADDITIONAL POSITIONS FOR PRECLEARANCE DETAIL IN NASSAU. FIGURE APPEARS TO ME GENERALLY REASONABLE IN LIGHT OF WORKLOAD EXPECTED AND I DEFER TO CUSTOMS' JUDGMENT THAT THIS PRECISE NUMBER IS CORRECT ONE.
 2. WE HAVE HAD COMMUNICATIONS WITH DEPARTMENT ON SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT QUESTIONS (NASSAU 1806, 1878, 1956, 106, 210, STATE 35868). GCOB, QUITE PROPERLY IN MY VIEW, SINCE IT IS A POSITION I SHARE, IS INSISTING THAT EMBASSY BE POINT THROUGH WHICH ALL ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS BETWEEN USG AND GCOB TAKE PLACE.
 3. PROVISION OF NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR ENTIRE PRECLEARANCE DETAIL, WHICH WILL TOTAL 35-40 PERSONS, PLUS DEPENDENTS, WILL REQUIRE TWO ADDITIONAL FSL POSITIONS IN EMBASSY ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION. PRECLEARANCE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHES THIS UNIT AS PART OF US OFFICIAL FAMILY IN NASSAU AND UNDER EMBASSY JURISDICTION, AND I AM ANXIOUS THEY BE TREATED AS EQUAL IN ALL RELEVANT RESPECTS TO DIRECT MEMBERS EMBASSY STAFF. EXPANSION WILL ALSO POWERFULLY REINFORCE OUR GROWING NEED FOR ADDITIONAL VEHICLE AND DRIVER, OR AUTHORITY TO MAKE A NON-PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO PROVIDE NECESSARY SERVICE TO AIRPORT, SCHOOL BUS SERVICE FOR DEPENDENTS, ETC.
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THIS NEED IS ALREADY APPARENT BECAUSE OF MSG TRANSPORT REQUIRE-

MENTS AND INCREASING NUMBERS OF DEPENDENTS REQUIRING TRANSPORT TO SCHOOLS. WE WILL BE UNABLE TO SERVICE PRECLEARANCE UNIT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT RELIEF ON THIS FRONT.

4. WE ALREADY NEED TO REINFORCE OUR ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION IN TERMS OF ITS CAPABILITIES IN BUDGET/FISCAL AND CLERICAL AREAS TO COPE WITH OUR PRESENT ENLARGED STAFF. WE HAVE REFRAINED FROM REQUESTING NEW POSITION UNTIL WE HAVE SEEN WHAT WE CAN DO WITHIN OUR PRESENT RESOURCES. HOWEVER, ADDITION OF PRECLEARANCE PERSONNEL WILL CLEARLY MAKE ADDITION OF ONLY ONE POSITION INADEQUATE. UNLESS TWO POSITIONS AUTHORIZED, WE MAY WELL FACE SITUATION WHERE NEWLY ASSIGNED PRECLEARANCE OFFICERS WILL LITERALLY NOT BE ABLE TO GET HHE'S AND POV'S FROM DOCK.

5. FINALLY, PRECLEARANCE EXPANSION WILL ALSO IMPACT ON OUR HOUSING PROBLEMS IN AN ALREADY CRAMPED MARKET. I BELIEVE OUR POLICY ON THIS MATTER NEEDS REVIEW AND WE WILL BE SUBMITTING RECOMMENDATIONS BY AIRGRAM.

SPIERS

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